

Prayers of Intercession

In this past week of COVID-19 lockdown, and Black Lives Matter protests, we come before

God remembering that all of us are loved, and children of God. We ask God to dwell with us and hear our prayers.

All-powerful God,

Throughout creation, your diversity is demonstrated:

In each face, in every life form,

In each sunrise, in every snowflake.

All the diversity in all your church are, but a sampling of your creative power.

Help us to trust in the innate order of all you have made.

Help us to restore your order, where systems of prejudice prevail

God, dwell with us, and hear our prayer.

Jesus, our brother and fellow traveller,

You intimately know the violence of human encounter with differences.

You know what George Floyd experienced in his dying minutes.

With your body on the cross, these differences were broken:

Jew and Greek, Slave and free.

Every shade made precious in your sight.

Help us to honour your sacrifice by doing the work of your body:

Help us to dismantle the use of difference for disprivilege.

God, dwell with us, and hear our prayer.

Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire,

You used different tongues to spread the gospel truth.

Diversity was your vehicle, diversity was your canvas.

May we trust in your power knit throughout our differences.

Fill us with your capacity for making common the message of love.

Let our differences be your chalk and chalkboard.

Be our guiding presence in this holy work,

God, dwell with us, and hear our prayer.

In all our hearts, holy One, you place the nudge of your calls.

You move us in all kinds of ways, with all kinds of concerns.

Whether for creation, climate or individuals ...

Whether for the church, the world or local situations ...

We call out our concerns to you here ... out loud or in the silence of our hearts.

God, dwell with us, and hear our prayer.

All these things, Lord, we entrust to your care, knowing that you hear all of our prayers.

And

we pray in the way that Jesus taught us to pray:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,

thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. AMEN.